

Docket No.: SCHLUMMER-2
Serial No.: 10/531,748

REMARKS

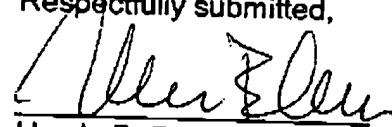
This Amendment is submitted preliminary to the issuance of an Office Action in the present application.

Applicant has cancelled claims 1-14 and added new claims 15-29 to better express the invention recited therein. These claims are of the same scope as the cancelled claims but adhere to U.S. practice. Applicant asserts that no claims have been narrowed within the meaning of the *Festo*-decision. *Festo Corp. v. Shoketsu Kinsoku Kogyo Kabushiki Co.*, 56 USPQ2d 1865 (Fed. Cir. Nov. 29, 2000)(en banc).

In addition, applicant has amended the specification to present it with proper headings.

The Examiner has been advised that this Preliminary Amendment is being filed prior to the first Office Action. When the Examiner takes this application up for action, s/he is requested to take the foregoing into account.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge fees, which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-0502.

Respectfully submitted,
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